

Southeast Fishery Bulletin

National Marine Fisheries Service, Southeast Regional Office, 9721 Executive Center Drive N., St. Petersburg, FL 33702

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:

Rod Dalton or Rod.Dalton@noaa.gov 727/570-5325, FAX 727/570-5583 http://caldera.sero.nmfs.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

March 22, 2002 NR02-017

USE OF POWERHEADS TO TARGET COBIA IN FEDERAL WATERS OFF THE SOUTH ATLANTIC STATES IS PROHIBITED

NOA A Fisheries reminds all fishermen operating in Federal waters off the South Atlantic states (i.e., North Carolina through the Florida east coast) that the use of any unauthorized gear (including spearfishing and use of powerheads) in a directed fishery for cobia is prohibited. The only authorized gear that may be used in a directed fishery for cobia in Federal waters off the South Atlantic states are: rod and reel, handline, automatic reel, bandit gear, and pelagic longline.

This and other news releases are available on the SERO homepage at http://caldera.sero.nmfs.gov. The NMFS is an agency of the Commerce Department's National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.